



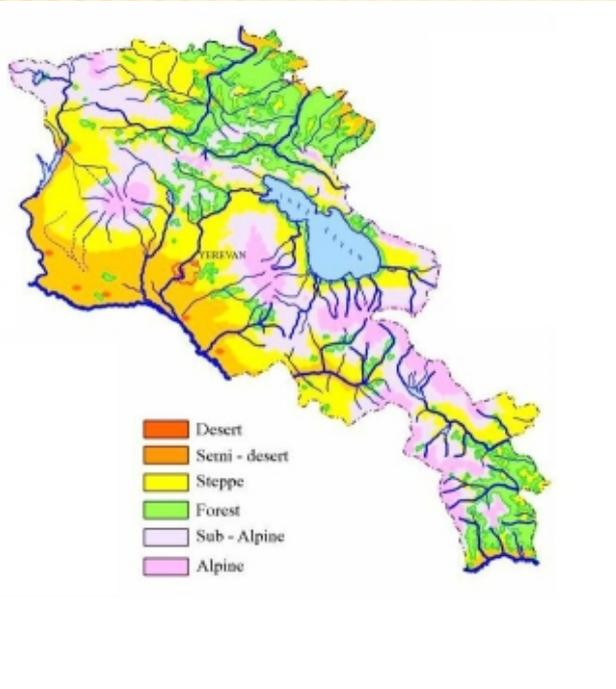
Council of Europe
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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF THE EUROPEAN WILDLIFE AND NATURAL HABITATS (BERN, 1979)

Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological
Networks, 8th meeting
27-28 September 2017



Armenia



ARMENIA



Area – 29740 sq. km
Altitudes – 375 – 4095 m
a.s.l.

Flora ~3800 species of
vascular plants,
Algae – 428 species
Mosses – 399 species
Fungi – 4207 species
Lichens – 464 species

ARMENIA



Fauna:

549 - Vertebratae
species (357 – birds)
~17200 – Invertebratae
species

MAIN VEGETATION TYPES



- ✘ Deserts
- ✘ Semi-deserts
- ✘ Steppes
- ✘ Open forests
- ✘ Forests
- ✘ Meadows (sub alpine and alpine)
- ✘ Wetlands
- ✘ Rocks and cliffs
- ✘ Disturbed areas

ACHIEVEMENTS REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE EMERALD NETWORK IN ARMENIA

DIVIDE INTO SEVERAL DIRECTIONS



- × Implementation of Emerald Network in Armenia
- × Joint Programme (Phase I), 2009-2011
- × **2012- Emerald Sites - 9** and these sites consist of **7,7 %** of the countries territory.
- × Joint Programme (Phase II), 2013-2016
- × **2014-Sites- 13** and these sites consist of **9.9 %** of the countries territory.
- × **2015 - Sites- 21** and these sites consist of **16,6 %** of the countries territory.
- × At present we have 23 potential Emerald sites in Armenia. These sites occupy 1 033 719,5 ha and consist of 35 % of the countries territory.

EMERALD 23 SITES –INCLUDED FOLLOWING



- × -1 site- State Reserve –Khosrov Forest
EDPA-Diploma/ **CM/ResDip(2013)2.**
- × - 4 National park,
- × - 4 sanctuary
- × - 8 IBA
- × - 2 sites - Jermuk and Tatev –will be
national parks - started implemantation
- × - 4 areas still do not have any category.
- × **List of habitats** included in the
Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention
existing in Armenia – **65 Habitats**
- × **List of species** included in the Resolution
6 of the Convention existing in Armenia
- × Vascular plants - 8 species
- × Invertebrate animals - 8 species
- × Vertebrate animals – 4 species
- × Reptiles – 3 species
- × Birds – 109 species
- × Mammals – 16 species
- × **Total -148 species**



- ✘ Main part of the areas having NPA status in the <<Emerald Network>> again coincides with the **Important Plant Areas and Important Bird Areas**, for instance <<Sevan>>, <<Arpi lake>>, <<Arevik>> and <<Khor Virap>>,<<Khosrov Forest>> sites are also Important Bird Areas, and <<Plane grove>>, <<Khor Virap>> are also Important Plant areas.
- ✘ <<Sevan>>, <<Arpi lake>> and <<Khor Virap>> sites of <<Emerald Network>> are also included in the list of internationally important wetlands areas of the <<Convention of Wetlands of International Importance>> **the Ramsar Convention**.
- ✘ Above mentioned Important Bird Areas in Armenia are highlighted also in the Annexes of migrating species of the **Bonn Convention**.

EMERALD PROCESS AT NATIONAL LEVEL

- ✘ The creation of “Emerald Network” is a precedent and a first step towards the creation of ecological network in Armenia provided by the law “On Specially Protected Nature Areas of RA” and towards joining the international networks such as PEEN.
- ✘ The creation of <<Emerald Network>> in Armenia is the important step towards the implementation of the provisions of the **Convention of <<Biological Diversity>> too.**

The importance of <<Emerald network>> for Armenia is also highlighted by the fact that it will serve as a unique electronic cadastre of the chosen areas (habitats, the condition of flora and fauna). Such a cadastre can be used not only by the cooperating countries but also in our country by the government agencies and local governments concerned with management of biodiversity and natural resources, academic, public organizations.

DATA ON ARMENIA'S <<EMERALD>> NETWORK IS CONTAINED IN THE:

- ✘ UN <<Convention of Biological Diversity>> <<Strategy and State Programm of Conservation, use and reproduction of biological diversity in the Republic of Armenia>> adopted by the Gov. protocol decree N 54, 10.12.2015.
- ✘ The fifth national report to the Convention on Biological diversity of Republic of Armenia, 2014.
- ✘ <<Convention of Climate Change>>
- ✘ Climate change risk assessment activities for “Emerald Network” sites were carried out by the support of UN **Convention on Climate Change**.
- ✘ -In the 3-rd National communication on climate change the vulnerability of the main natural ecosystems in Armenia was evaluated and their possible change forecasts were given.
- ✘ -4-th National communication of Armenia. on climate change
- ✘ “Strategy and state program of conservation and use of specially protected nature areas” adopted by the Gov. decree N 1059-Մ, 25.09.2014
- ✘ By the Gov. decree N49 of 08.12.2016 planned during the 2017-2022 two very important activities in Armenia first-distribution/ spread of the public dissemination of information about the Emerald Network areas, second regular send the information about Emerald Network areas to the Secretary of Bern Convention.
- ✘ In the <<MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION between the Nature Conservation Agency of the Czech Republic and the Bio-resource Management Agency of the Ministry of Nature Protection of the Republic of Armenia concerning information and experience exchange>> included the activity between Republic of Armenia and Republic of Czech about Identification of sites of supra-national importance, particularly the Bern Convention <<Emerald Network>>.

IN THE FRAMEWORK OF PREPARATION OF EMERALD NETWORK IN REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA WERE PUBLISHED

- × **At 2009** we have published the brochure in Armenian, English and Russian about the flora and fauna species and their habitats occurring in Armenia and included in the Res. 4 and Res.6.
- × The <<Emerald Network>> brochure prepared by the Council of Europe at **2010 was** translated into Armenian.
- × **2011 a book** “Identification of Potential Areas of Environmental Special Conservation Interest in the Republic of Armenia program Emerald Network in Armenia for 2009-2011” in Armenian and English was published.
- × **At 2013** the Calendar <<Emerald Network>> in Armenia was published having the environmental-informative direction.
- × **At 2014** again the Calendar <<Emerald Network and Climate Change>> was published by the financial support of Armenian projects of the Convention of Climate Change.
- × **At 2014 the book** <<Emerald Armenia>> in Armenian and English was published.
- × **At 2015 the book** <<Habitats of Armenia>> include the description of 65 habitats of Armenia included in the Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention.
- × **At 2016** the book about final version of <Emerald Armenia>> in Armenian and English was published.

PROBLEMS

- ✘ -Approval of the status of the Emerald Network's areas at national level.
- ✘ -Full conservation and monitoring of areas included in Emerald Network.
- ✘ Those areas of the Network, that have protected areas are, of course, protected by the State, but the sites those have not categories under the national legislation will have problems about conservation and monitoring.
- ✘ -reporting- 25 species and 6 habitats

SUGGESTIONS

- ✘ First - will the site boundaries could be changed in the nearest futures after additional scientific investigations. First of all it could be made for sites proposed on the base of Important ornithological areas and for some sites where habitats from Convention are represented. These areas can be reduced, including the most important parts of IOA and best represented parts of habitats.
- ✘ Second step - send the newly proposed sites from the later National Database for official nomination to the Standing Committee of Bern convention
- ✘ Establish a permanent reporting group involving representatives Gov., scientific organizations.
- ✘ **and finally create a transboundary Emerald site with Georgia- Lake Arpi and Javakheti national parks, present for EDPA.**

Thank you for your attention and patience!

